

extensively annotated catalogue of Ohio birds state the scope and purpose of the paper, explain the terms used to indicate relative abundance, give a rather detailed account of the topography and physical conditions of the State, including a consideration of faunal areas, etc., and finally a statement of the author's sources of information, with acknowledgments to contributors for assistance. There is also a bibliography at the close of the list, giving five pages of titles of works and papers relating to the birds of Ohio.

The list includes altogether 338 species, of which 299 are given as found more or less regularly in the State, 15 as merely accidental visitors, and 4 as extinct, making 318 indigenous species as of actual record for the State; there are 2 introduced species, and a hypothetical list of 18 species, the whole number being thus 338, as against 298 given by Dr. Wheaton in 1882.

The annotations give the manner of occurrence of the species as regards season and abundance, and their range within the State; there is also more or less reference to their economic status, there being generally a paragraph under each family heading relating to the food, and often a more detailed statement under many of the species. In addition to the A. O. U. Check-List names are given the synonyms, both technical and vernacular, of the species used in other works, and a reference to Dr. Wheaton's catalogue.

"This catalogue," says the author, "is a revision of Dr. J. M. Wheaton's catalogue issued in 1882 as a part of Volume IV of the Ohio Geological Survey. An attempt has been made to draw comparisons between the conditions prevailing then and now, especially as regards the bird life, and to add such facts as further study and improved methods have brought to light." In the Introduction, the changes in range of certain species within the State are considered, in connection with the probable invasion of the State by several species since Dr. Wheaton wrote. It is needless to say that Professor Jones's 'Catalogue' is a most trustworthy and highly important contribution to Ohio ornithology, being based in part upon special field work he has been able to conduct through a grant by the Ohio State Academy of Sciences from the 'Emerson McMillin Research Fund,' through which also the expense of publication was met.—J. A. A.

Anderson and Grinnell on the Birds of the Siskiyou Mountains, California.¹—This is a record of birds collected or observed by Mr. Anderson in the extreme northwestern part of California between September 6, 1901, and March 10, 1902, with "critical remarks on specimens and distribu-

¹ Birds of Siskiyou Mountains, California: a Problem in Distribution. By Malcolm P. Anderson and Joseph Grinnell. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sciences of Philadelphia, 1903, pp. 4-15. April 17, 1903.

tion" by Mr. Grinnell. A couple of pages descriptive of the limits and physical characteristics of the region, with a list of the trees, is followed by an annotated list of 43 species of birds and a 'summary' of the principal points relating to their distribution. The list shows a mixture, at least in winter, of humid coast forms and arid Sierran forms, the Siskiyou Mountains being "evidently on the narrow line of mergence between the humid coast fauna and the arid Sierran fauna."—J. A. A.

Sharpe's 'Hand List of the Genera and Species of Birds.'—Volume IV. — Volume IV¹ continues the list of the Passeriformes, and includes the families Timeliidæ (with six subfamilies), Troglodytidæ, Cinclidæ, Mimidæ, Turdidæ (with nine subfamilies), Sylviidæ, Vireonidæ, Ampelidæ, Artamidæ, Vangidæ, Prionopidæ, Aerocharidæ (with a single species), Laniidæ, Paridæ, Chamæidæ, Regulidæ, Sittidæ, and Certhiidæ. A fifth volume has been found necessary to complete the work, and its publication is promised in the course of a few months.

The present volume is fully up to the high standard of its predecessors, being in every sense fully up-to-date. As in previous volumes, the proof-sheets have been revised by a considerable number of the leading ornithologists of Europe and America, and the author makes numerous acknowledgments of indebtedness for suggestions thus received.

As regards American birds, it may be noted that *Anorthura* is retained for the Winter Wrens, since "the only bird in Rennie's mind [when he proposed the genus] was certainly the European Wren." "The arrangement of the Turdinæ, as here set forth, is founded on the scheme proposed by Dr. Stejneger in 1883, with certain changes and modifications.... The arrangement of the true Turdidæ into Thrushes (*Turdus*) and Blackbirds (*Merula*) breaks down on close examination; but a more prolonged study is necessary before an arrangement, satisfactory to all ornithologists, can be arrived at.... The distinctive characters between the genera *Turdus* and *Merula* are very slight, and the difference in colour of the sexes in the latter genus is of no account. The proportion of the primary-quills emphasized by Dr. Stejneger is also an unstable character," etc. Just what is the basis of Dr. Sharpe's present arrangement is not quite clear, nor are the reasons for some of the new associations and dissociations at all evident. Between *Turdus* and *Merula* are interposed nearly a dozen other

¹ A Hand-List | of the | Genera and Species | of Birds. | [Nomenclator Avium tum Fossilium | tum Viventium.] | By | R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., | Assistant Keeper, Department of Zoology, | British Museum. | Volume IV. | London: | Printed by Order of the Trustees. | Sold by | Longmans & Co., 39 Paternoster Row, E. C.; | B. Quaritch, 15 Piccadilly, W.; Dulau & Co., 37 Soho Square, W.; | Kegan Paul & Co., 43 Gerrard St., W.; | and at the | British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, S.W. | 1903. | All rights reserved.—8vo. pp. i-xii, 1-391.